

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 5 – HB 10

March 14, 2018

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to assess the population, caseload, and number of judges for each judicial district at least two years prior to each August general election, beginning prior to the August 2022 election, and every eight years thereafter.

Requires the AOC to report its findings and any recommended changes to judicial districts to the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the Civil Justice Committee of the House of Representatives.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – \$150,000/FY18-19 and Every Eight Years Thereafter
\$50,000/FY19-20 and Every Eight Years Thereafter

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014631): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Adds a trial court to the 19th judicial district, effective September 1, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$273,000/FY18-19
\$297,900/FY19-20 and Subsequent Fiscal Years

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation creates an additional trial court in the 19th judicial district.
- The Governor shall appoint a person to serve in the judgeship until the August 2020 election.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a trial judge are \$214,910 [\$176,377 salary + (\$176,377 x 0.1177) benefits + (\$128,400 maximum x 0.062) social security + (\$176,377 x 0.0145) Medicare + \$7,254.96 insurance].
- Additionally, the judge position will require recurring funding for supplies, travel, rent, utilities, legal subscriptions, etc., estimated to be \$27,000 per year, and one-time funding of \$23,000 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, books, etc.

- The court will not be created until September 1, 2018.
- The expenditures relative to the judge in FY18-19 are estimated to be \$224,584 $\{[(\$214,910 + \$27,000) \times 0.8333] + \$23,000\}$.
- Each judge has a legal secretary who receives a salary of \$39,800.
- The recurring salary and benefits for a legal secretary are \$54,784 [\$39,800 salary + $(\$39,800 \times 0.1177)$ benefits + $(\$39,800 \times 0.0765)$ FICA + \$7,254.96 insurance].
- Additionally, the legal secretary position will require recurring funding for travel estimated to be \$1,200 per year, and one-time funding of \$1,800 for furniture, computer, software, other equipment, etc.
- The expenditures relative to the secretary in FY18-19 are estimated to be \$48,451 $\{[(\$54,784 + \$1,200) \times 0.8333] + \$1,800\}$.
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY18-19 is estimated to be \$273,035 $(\$224,584 + \$48,451)$.
- The total recurring increase in state expenditures beginning in FY19-20 is estimated to be \$297,894 $(\$214,910 + \$27,000 + \$54,784 + \$1,200)$.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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